FEDERATION
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6/10/2014 Michigan Representatives Lansing, Michigan

RE: SB 613

Dear Representatives-

I want to thank you for the opportunity to address you regarding SB 613.

The volunteers from the National Wild Turkey Federation and other conservationist are asking that the Wild Turkey be add to the "Other than list" with Cub Bear, Fawn, Ducks, Geese, etc. As you know the restoration of the Wild Turkey is the biggest conservation/restoration program ever in our great state of Michigan. Michigan is sixth in the country for turkey harvest. NWTF, Conservation groups and residents along with our DNR work very hard on conservation/habitat projects in Michigan for the Wild Turkey. The Wild Turkey is an upland bird that is perfect for Michigan's mentored hunt program. Michigan, also is becoming a destination place for people to come for the Wild Turkey and enjoy our great state.

When people harvest a Wild Turkey with a shotgun they are unable to see any hole or evidence that the bird had been shot (most cases), so it would be very easy for a person to say they hit it with a vehicle. Also, most of the time Wild Turkeys travel in very close groups certain times of the year and it could be a case of hitting an entire flock of Wild Turkeys, picking them up and down the road they go. By allowing Wild Turkey to be picked up as road kill, it creates a loophole for violators or violations.

As SB 613 is written now the NWTF does not support it. Please add Wild Turkeys to the "Other than list". Thank you for your time and efforts as we all work together to conserve and preserve our Natural Resources and Hunting Heritage.

Respectfully, Tony Snyder NWTF Michigan State Chapter President